AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-55 (canceled)

56. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 wherein the continuous biosignal is an EEG signal or a muscular activation signal or both.

57. (previously presented) The method of claim 56 wherein the muscular activation signal is a measure of eyelid movement.

58. (previously presented) The method of claim 56 wherein the EEG signal is a continuous signal.

59. (canceled)

60. (canceled)

61. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 further comprising monitoring signals for signal quality.

62. (canceled)

63. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 wherein said acquiring said at least one continuous biosignal includes using at least one disposable or semi-disposable sensor.

64. (previously presented) The method of claim 63 wherein said at least one disposable or semi-disposable sensor includes means for activating an electrical energy source.

65. (previously presented) The method of claim 64 wherein the means for activating said energy source includes the packaging of said electrical energy source.

66. (canceled)

67. (previously presented) The a method of claim 78 wherein said evoked potential response signal comprises any one or a combination of somatosensory, auditory, or visual evoked response.

68. (canceled)

69. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 whereby said stimulating induces a steady state response signal or any combination of signals inducing associated auditory evoked response or responses classified as the following either singly or in combination greater than: 60 Hz ASSR, 40 Hz ASSR, or less than 20 Hz ASSR.

70. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 further comprising displaying a functional or operational status of a sensor.

71. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 wherein said stimulating includes producing any one of or a combination of evoked response paradigms including:

at least one type of click stimulus;

at least one response at spaced intervals within a click stimulus

sounds of white noise or speech

oddball sound characteristics

unusual sound characteristics

masked noise sounds

unanticipated noise sounds

composite sounds

familiar sounds

recognizable sounds in reference to said being

wherein a combination of any sound stimulus is generated according to a predetermined sequence.

72. (previously presented) The method of claim 71 wherein the predetermined sequence is determined by determination means.

73. (previously presented) The method of claim 72 including alerting an operator of a status of at least one sensor.

74. (canceled)

75. (canceled)

76. (canceled)

77. (canceled)

78. (previously presented) A method for acquiring, characterising and classifying biosignals from a living being for determining the state of consciousness of said being comprising:

acquiring at least one continuous biosignal;

stimulating an evoked potential response signal in said being;

deriving at least one evoked potential response signal from said at least one continuous biosignal;

deriving a first index of consciousness from said continuous biosignal;

deriving a second index of consciousness from said evoked potential response signal; and

classifying said indices as being representative of entering or leaving consciousness according to a weighting process.

79. (canceled)

80. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 wherein said at least one evoked potential response signal includes one or more of:

a first latency signal acquired from any of a cochlear, eighth nerve or eighth nerve compound action potential, said signal having a duration substantially of 0 to 5 ms;

a second fast latency signal acquired from any of an auditory brainstem response, wave I, wave 11, wave 111, wave IVY or wave V, said signal having a duration substantially of 2 to 20 ms;

a third early cortical or middle latency signal said signal including any of MLAEP, Na, Pa, TP41, Pb, or Nb, said signal having a duration substantially of 10 to 100 m sec;

a fourth slow latency vertex audio evoked potential signal including any of P 1, N1, P2, or N2 having a duration substantially of 50 to 300 ms; and a fifth contingent potential processing signal (PCP), including any one of or a combination of mismatched negativity, Nd, N2b, P3a, P3b, N400, or P600.